

# Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

## February 2019

### A Christmas to remember !



Eighteen local clubs, businesses, the school and preschool decorated beautiful and imaginative trees on the theme of "Holidays and Days Out" for the 2018 Christmas Tree Festival. On Saturday there was the usual bustling market and fair. In the evening, the Essex Police Brass Band raised the church rafters, with the support of the village choir, readings by the schoolchildren, the school choir and ballet dancers from Dance Projection. On Sunday at 4.30pm, the Parish Council tree lights at Banbury Square were switched on by Gerald Smith and then Father Christmas arrived in a super Triumph Stag and led the way along the candlelit path back to the church for an enchanting Christingle and a performance of "The Shepherd Who Didn't Believe in Angels." The

event was jointly organised by the PCC and the Community Network and with the help of many kind friends. Thanks to everyone who took part and who came along.



The Police Band

**Christmas  
Pudding  
Workshop  
inside on page 3**



The Christmas Fair



The Dance Projection



The Village Choir

### From the Vicarage,

Happy New Year! We've been saying it a lot recently, haven't we? I always wonder for how long are we meant to go on saying it to people we are seeing for the first time each year?

I recently came across the idea of creating a memory jar for the year. You find an empty jar, and then every time something good or special happens, you write it on a slip of paper and put it in the jar. Or write down the best thing that has happened each day. On New Year's Eve, you read all the slips of paper as a reminder of blessings you have enjoyed over the year. Similarly, I am creating a memory folder on my computer, and am already looking forward to good memories at the end of next December. Why don't you have a go too?

January is a time of reflection – for looking back over the past year and looking forward to the year ahead; maybe making resolutions - and trying to stick to them at least until the end of the first week of January! What were the highs and lows of 2018 for you? What are your hopes and fears for 2019? We all wish each other a "happy new year", but the reality is that none of us know what 2019 will hold. We may have plans - and a lot of them will probably happen - but there are likely to be surprises and twists and turns along the way. Some of them will be welcome, some of them less so. You may be excited about all that the new year has in store - holidays already booked, treats planned, new adventures to be had. Or you may be starting 2019 with an anxious heart - ill health, money worries, or difficult relationships weighing heavy.


In our churches, we are already planning what is ahead of us. As well as our usual services and events we are looking at how we can be good news in our schools, in the community and in the wider world. When we give others a blessing, we also receive one. I wish I had kept a list of the blessings we received over the last year. So often we can hang on to the bad memories and allow them to overshadow what has given us life and put a spring in our step. And if it's been a particularly tough year for you, you may be worried about what the future holds. So as we pass through the threshold of 2019, I would like to share with you part of a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins:

*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."*

## Church of England Services February 2019

<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	9.30am	Communion	Ford End
	11.00am	Communion	Great Waltham

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>

	9.30am	The Power of Love Family Service	Ford End
	11.0am	The Power of Love Family Service	Great Waltham

<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am	Communion	Ford End
	11.00am	Communion	Great Waltham
	11.00am	Communion	Chignals with Mashbury

<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30 am	Celtic Worship	Ford End
	11.00am	Communion	Great Waltham

**Contact: Alison Bates Parish Administrator**

**Tel: 07957 228467      admin@littleandgreat.org.uk**

## Services and Events at Blackchapel, North End February 2019

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Family Worship	10.00 am
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Good Book Club	SchoolRoom 1.20pm
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion bcp	10.00 am
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion cw	10.00 am
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Good Book Club	School Room 1.20 pm
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship	10.00 am

There will be a Black Chapel Prayer Meeting on 20th February at "Hannahs", Onslow Green at 7.30 p.m. If you cannot attend, but would like us to pray for anything please call Jennifer on 873626 or Pat on 820095.

(bcp = Book of Common Prayer; cw = Common Worship)

For all enquiries regarding Black Chapel please contact Patrick Hamilton on 01371 822095.

## Services & Events at Lt Waltham United Reformed Church February 2019

Contact; Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245 471990

Services 10.30am Each Sunday

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	Ian Chamberlain	
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> .	Rev Geoffrey Griggs	<b>Bring &amp; Share Lunch</b>
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> .	Tim Diaper	
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> .	Rev Geoffrey Griggs.	<b>HC</b>

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Gossip & Guzzle. 11am - 1.0pm. Fish & Chips!**  
**Saturday. 16<sup>th</sup> Feb Coffee Morning in Schoolroom 10am**

*(From the Vicarage continued)*

*And he replied:*

*"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.*

*That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."*

*So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.*

*And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.*

Whether you are excited, anxious or a mixture of many emotions as we stand at the gate of 2019, my hope and prayer for each of us is that we will walk forward into the future knowing that God walks with us, offering us light and peace and hope.      Every blessing Rev Sandra

## Ford End Gardening Club

We all thoroughly enjoyed our January meeting when Glyn Evans gave an informative presentation on Garden Wildlife which was illustrated with his beautiful photographs. Glyn, who has always been an avid birdwatcher, comes from Wivenhoe so has plenty of opportunity for this along the estuary of the river Colne.

The goldcrest weighing just five grams is the smallest bird in the UK but some come all the way from Scandinavia to overwinter here. The wren, another tiny bird, is the most common visitor to our gardens and, if there are some empty snail shells near a large stone in the garden, then it is the work of a song thrush as they love eating them although worms are the favourite food of the mistle thrush. Apparently, hedgehogs also love to eat snails and appreciate catfood being left out for them, but do not feed them milk. Buzzards and red kites are now regularly seen soaring around in this area. Insects mustn't be forgotten as they are so important for pollination and any purple flowering plant attracts them. Glyn also showed some lovely pictures of many different moths.

The next meeting of the gardening club is on **11 February starting at 7.30 in Ford End village hall**. The speaker will be John Walker and the talk will be on 'Latin derivatives - what's in a name' so why not come along and join us.

### Great Waltham Parish Community Care Group AGM

**Tuesday 5th February  
8pm  
Great Waltham Parish Office  
All Welcome**

### Great Waltham Parish Community Care Group

The aim of the group is to provide short term and ongoing help to meet the needs of elderly local residents for whom there is no statutory provision.

Predominately this will involve providing transport to doctor or hospital appointments.

**If you require the services of the group, please call our co-ordinators who are:**

Sheila Gillies Tel. 01245 360570  
Wendy Proctor Tel. 01245 360483  
John Lattimore, Chairman  
Tel. 01245 363818



## UP up and Away Playgroup News

December was a busy month for us with our different Christmas crafts and practising the songs for our Christmas performance 'Dingle Dangle Santa' which included Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, Away In a Manger, Jingle Bells and We Wish You a Merry Christmas and other favourites. We decided to make the performance simple this year having lots

of younger children so the performance was more song based which the children (and parents/families) seemed to enjoy. We had a visit from the schools reception class who came to watch our dress rehearsal, then we all had snack and played some games together. It was so lovely to see last years preschoolers.

We had the fantastic support of our preschool families and fundraising was a big success running up to Christmas. Firstly we had a stall at the Tree a festival in the church with 'Guess the name of the bear', 'Find the lost elf' and sweets parcels for sale. We took orders for the children to decorate mugs with their finger prints for gifts and our Christmas raffles and refreshments added to our grand total raised. Starting back after our break we have had 2 new starters and some of our current children taking up more hours meaning they are attending full days. We have been spending lots of time in the garden where our mud kitchen is still as popular as ever, chocolate mud cake seems to be a favourite recipe. We have started PE with our older children on a Tuesday, learning about what happens to our body when we exercise. For this weeks PE session we went to the park to play football, we all had a lot of fun.'

## CHRISTMAS PUDDING WORKSHOP

The Community Network ran the first ever Christmas Pudding Workshop at the village hall on "Stir-up Sunday," Nov 25th. Forty people came along to make puddings which they took home to steam and keep 'till Christmas. They had a great, sociable time and proudly presented their delicious, home-made puddings to family and friends over the Christmas hols. Thanks to the Rose and Crown for sponsoring the event. Remember to put "Stir-Up Sunday" in your 2019 diary – November 24th.



A busy cook



A finished pudding



40 Busy cooks

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**Ford End Senior Tea**  
The next tea will be held at  
2pm on Monday, 18th  
February at Woodstock,  
Church Lane, Ford End.  
Anyone interested or who  
has not been before, please  
ring Sheila Bearman on  
01245 237335 or  
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**Ford End Dancing**  
The club will meet on February  
Wednesday 6th and  
Wednesday 20th at 7pm in  
Ford End Village Hall. For more  
information, contact Sheila  
Bearman on 01245 237335 or  
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**Waltham Scouts Volunteering Opportunity**



The Waltham's Scout Group is a dynamic and flourishing group having 3 sections; Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and provides a wide range of activities for boys and girls from the age of 6 – 14 years old. The Group is looking for a Volunteer manager (Group Scout Leader) to support and manage the excellent team of volunteers and leaders within the Group. The role is open to anyone over the age of 18 and is ideal for those who have management experience and would like to give something back to the community or those wishing to develop their skill set. A full training package is provided along with one to one support. A role Description is available upon request and if you have any immediate questions contact either the Group Chairman [mike.2.steel@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.2.steel@btinternet.com) or Rob Lyon of Chelmsford Scouts. [Roblyon96@gmail.com](mailto:Roblyon96@gmail.com)

**It's Not Too Late**



True, the Choir's year started a couple of weeks back but by coming along next Thursday, you can benefit from a FREE 'taster' evening including coffee and biscuits and you will easily be able to catch up on this term's new numbers which include a few old favourites, such as *Chattanooga Choo Choo* and *I'm Working on the Railroad* and *May The Road Rise to Meet You*, as well as a revisit to some previous popular numbers from our repertoire including *Fly me To The Moon*, Howard Goodall's *The Vicar of Dibley* song, Robbie Williams' *Angels* and *Let's Call the Whole Thing Off*. Do please come along to Great Waltham School at 7.00pm on Thursday – no pressure, no auditions, no solos.

**It's a lot of fun. We hope to see you there...**

## Little Waltham Gardening Club

We had another good turnout at the Memorial Hall this year for the Christmas Social evening for the Little Waltham Gardening Club. We were royally entertained by the Broomfield Ukulele Group of which two are members of the Gardening Club.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening with further music provided by our treasurer, Peter Lawson who played several tunes on the Accordion with great aplomb. This musical interlude was followed by a team Quiz during which time we helped ourselves to the food and drink provided by the members.

The subject for the December President's Trophy was a Christmas Table Decoration which was won by Sharon Williams with Maggie Williams coming a close second.

Our February meeting will be held on **Wednesday 6th February** and the subject is 'Bumblebees'. All welcome.



## Walthambury Womens Institute

At our first meeting of the year John Andrews a retired Police Officer talked to us about his long and interesting career in the Police Force during the 70's and 80's. He spoke about the huge changes in policing particularly the way female officers were treated in those days. Our first event this year is lunch at the Spotted Dog on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Two courses £16 - 95 three courses £18 - 95. We discussed the 6 resolutions featured in the November/December issue of WI Life. One resolution will eventually be debated at the Annual meeting in June. Could any member who has not paid her annual subscription due now please let Ann our treasurer have it in February. Many thanks.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday February 12<sup>th</sup> 7.15 for 7.30** in the British Legion Hall. **The Reverend Caroline Brown** is our speaker.

New members and visitors are most welcome.

**World Day of Prayer 2019**  
will be held at 2pm on  
**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019**  
at **St Martin's Church Little Waltham**  
**CM3 3LJ**

Each year, on this day, Christians of many cultures, traditions and races in over 170 countries around the world unite in prayer.

Please join us, everyone is welcome.

Refreshments will be available.

**For further information please contact**  
**Sally Stephenson 07962 223023 or Alison**  
**Bates admin@littleandgreat.org.uk**

## News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School

The children have returned to school refreshed after their Christmas break and they certainly have happy memories of the many Christmas events at school and church in a very packed December. (Picture below) Sadly, over the holidays we were visited not by Father Christmas but by thieves who stole lead from the roof. The school are very grateful for the supportive messages we have received from the school community and especially to the very kind donations via crowd funding to help cover the insurance excess to repair the roof.

Y2 children will be rehearsing for the Infant Music Festival at Christ Church in the coming weeks. This will be a collaboration with other schools but Class Africa will then deliver the play at school to Y2 parents. Topics this term are 'Special People' for KS1 – they start by learning about what makes themselves special, then they look at people from the community and famous people too. KS2 have local area (geography based) focus for their topic which they have called 'Out and About'. They are certainly getting more familiar with maps.



24 children from Y5/6 represented the school at an indoor athletics event at Melbourne, they competed well and enjoyed the activities all based on running, throwing and jumping. We have more cross country, football, tag rugby, gymnastics and netball to look forward to this term.

Revd. Carloline and Revd. Jackie have continued to visit for Collective Worship. The children always enjoy their visits. We have also visited church for Community Worship.



Staff from 8 local primary schools from the River Chelmer Primary Partnership met to look at writing across the curriculum – a really useful experience for teachers to compare best practice. Thanks to Mrs Chris Cullen for all her volunteer time at school over the past 12 years. She is relocating to Scotland; we said good-bye and thanks in Collective Worship in January; pupils from Class Australia presented her with a card and present.

## Christmas Festivities



# Variety Show

Great Waltham Parish Productions presents an evening of song, comedy and much more from local talent.

At Great Waltham Village Hall

on

**Friday 22nd March and  
Saturday 23rd March  
8.00pm**

**Tickets £7.00 adults £5.00 children**

**Available from the Walthambury stores**

## Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk, W Adshead-Grant, Old Fire Station, Great Waltham, Essex CM3 1DF Tel 01245 362638  
clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk

The following is a summary extract (by Mike Steel – Chair) of the Parish Council Meeting of Monday 17th December 2018. The full and approved minutes are published on the Parish Council Notice boards and at the Parish Website to [www.greatwaltham.org.uk](http://www.greatwaltham.org.uk)

ECC Cllr Aldridge attended the meeting and stated that the 12-week public consultation continues (from 29th November 2018 to 20th February 2019). Nearest library to GW is Broomfield which is designated Tier 4. (details of Essex Future Library Services Strategy can be found on ECC website). The addition of the Ford End 40mph buffer zone is planned for March 2019. A request for similar at the southern end of the village should be considered at the January Local Highways Panel.

The proposed Parish Council budget for 2019/2020 was presented and accepted with an increase of the precept by 2.44% to £46,000 per annum

The next Parish Council meeting will be held **18th February 2019, at the Parish Office**. The Public and Press are welcome to attend. The agenda will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting.

### “BIG VILLAGE RAFFLE”

Here are the winners of the Big Village Raffle. I hope you enjoyed your prizes. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets. The proceeds went to the church and the Community Network.

1. Emma Billey
2. Sheila Woodstock
3. Mrs Rose
4. Teresa Harper
5. Alison
6. Jenny Murphy
7. Mrs Bishop
8. Ann Ballard
9. Mike Rees
10. Lorraine McClements
11. Sarah Whittaker-Axish
12. Claire Bendall
13. Helen Powell
14. Tonia
15. Pat Pepper
16. Mary Harrod
17. Norah Fitzwater
18. Mrs Hurrell



### From the County Council

#### The Future of library services in Essex

The County Council are consulting on its proposed strategy for library services over the next five years. The consultation lasts until 20<sup>th</sup> February. Information on drop-ins are at every local library during their normal hours of opening. Find out more on <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/libraries-consultation> and please complete the survey

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/libraries-consultation/complete-the-survey/> so that you can make your views known.

**Review of support/funding local bus services which operate on evenings and Sundays.** This consultation includes proposals regarding the delivery of these services and devolving local bus services to communities. This consultation opened on 19th December and will run **until March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019**.

The questionnaire is available from libraries (from January onwards), or online <https://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/Eveningandsundaybusservices> or by phoning: 03457 430430. District and Parish councils, plus other stakeholders have been contacted directly.

#### Stay safe and well this winter

o Colder weather can pose significant risks, particularly for those who are more vulnerable, so we're encouraging you to be prepared. Here are some things you can do:

**Check your car such as anti-freeze and tyres;**

**Check your central heating an ideal temperature to maintain is at least 18°C;**

**Be prepared for a power cut. If you have a power failure you can find out what is happening by Texting POWER + your post code 80876, or email to [ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut](http://ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut) or call 0800 3163105 on a landline;**

**Check your water pipes are insulated and find where the mains stop cock is located;**

**Look out for your neighbours and those that may need help in adverse weather conditions.**

**Check out other helpful winter tips** - <https://www.essex.gov.uk/Pages/Winter.aspx>

Lastly, a Happy New Year to all. if you have any problems about County Council matters please let me know on Tel. No. 01245 4121524 Mobile 07827 976997 or email [cldr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk). **John Aldridge CC – January 2019**

Thank you for all of the contributions to this edition of 'Parish News'. Please send your contributions for the next issue by email to: [articles@parish-news.co.uk](mailto:articles@parish-news.co.uk). Enquiries and advertising requests should be sent by e-mail to: [adverts@parish-news.co.uk](mailto:adverts@parish-news.co.uk) The last date for inclusion in the MARCH issue is February 14th 2019